



Aldershot Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ALSO

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

FOR

—✂— 1912 —✂—

BY

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ALDERSHOT :

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*TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ALDERSHOT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the district in 1912, and at the same time wish to thank you for your courtesy and assistance during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. W. ROUTLEY.

ALDERSHOT URBAN DISTRICT.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1912.

Latitude	...	...	...	51° 15' N.
Longitude	...	...	..	46' W.
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£152,425
Area	...	...	...	4,178 acres.
Population (Town)	...	...	...	19,836
„ (S. Camp)	...	...	...	15,411
Birth Rate, 1912 (Town)	...	...	...	34·8
Death Rate, 1912 (Town)	...	...	...	11·3
Zymotic Death Rate (Town)	...	...	...	1·1
Infantile Mortality Rate	...	...	...	84·0

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REPORT for 1912.

POPULATION.—The estimated average population for 1912 in the civil and military portions of the district are given below, together with the figures obtained at the census of 1901 and 1911.

	Census. 1901.	Census. 1911.	Estimated July 1st, 1912.
Town ...	16,726	19,464 { M. 9,470 F. 9,974 }	19,836
S. Camp ...	14,248	15,711 { M. 13,256 F. 2,455 }	15,411
	30,974	35,175	35,247

More complete information is now obtainable from the census returns of 1911 with regard to the number of inhabited houses, and of separate occupiers: the exact number of above, together with a description of the buildings in the town, will be found in the following table:—

BUILDINGS USED AS DWELLINGS.

	Ordinary Dwel- ling Houses.	Blocks of Flats.	Shops.	Hotels, Inns, & Public Houses.	Offices, Ware- houses, etc.	Institutions.	Other Buildings	Total.
Number Inhabited	3,201	6	320	70	17	14	22	3,650
Separate Occupiers	4,011	14	355	73	17	16	22	4,508
Population ...	16,835	55	1,630	420	67	357	97	19,461
Uninhabited ...	103	...	20	1	...	...	...	124
Being Built ...	11	...	1	...	...	...	...	12

BUILDINGS NOT USED AS DWELLINGS.

Places of Worship ...	15
School Buildings and Electric Light Station	7
Shops ...	95
Offices ...	10
Warehouses, Workshops, Factories	28
Theatres, etc. ...	4

The number of inhabited dwellings in April, 1911, was thus found to be 3,650, and the number of tenements or separate occupiers 4,508; the average number of persons living in each dwelling being 5·3; a somewhat lower figure than in former years.

AREA : DENSITY OF POPULATION.—The area of the Urban District is 4,178 acres.

Town	1,432
South Camp	2,746
	4,178

The density of population in the town is 13·8 per acre.

GEOLOGICAL CONDITIONS.—The northern portion of the district is situated on the Lower, Middle and Upper Bagshot Sands, the southern portion rests on London Clay. Along the banks of the Blackwater River, which forms the eastern boundary, the soil is alluvial. The highest point in the town is at the western end of Alexandra Road, an elevation of 393 feet above Ordnance Datum; at the lowest point, the Sewage Works, the elevation is 231 feet.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—The chief occupations of the inhabitants are the ordinary trading businesses and the letting of lodgings. There are few factories and comparatively few workshops. The population includes a very large number of ex-soldiers and their families, living entirely, or supplementarily on their pensions.

OLD AGE PENSIONERS.—The average number of aged persons receiving these pensions in 1912 was 310.

RATEABLE VALUE.—Debt, Aldershot Urban District (including South Camp), £152,425.

Total rates in the £ for the year ending March 31st, 1913, 6s.

ADOPTIVE ACTS OF PARLIAMENT IN FORCE.—

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.
 Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.
 Private Street Works Act, 1872.
 Notification of Births Act, 1907.

BYELAWS are in force in the district in respect to—

	Date made.
Cleansing of Footways, Pavements and Cesspools	1887
Common Lodging Houses	1887
Hackney Carriages	1887
Hackney Carriages (mechanically driven)	1910
Houses Let in Lodgings	1908
Mortuary	1888
New Streets and Buildings	1887
Nuisances	1887
Offensive Trades (Blood Boiler, Blood Drier, Bone Boiler)	1888
Pleasure Grounds	1888
Slaughter Houses	1887
Tents, Vans and Sheds	1907

REGULATIONS are in force in the district in respect to—
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ... 1900

BIRTHS.—1,081 births were registered in 1912, the same number, curiously enough, that were registered in the previous year—

Town	...	532	{	Males ...	255
			{	Females	277

South Camp	...	549	{	Males ...	283
			{	Females	266

1,081

Considerable corrections to these figures, however, have to be made in consequence of the large number of maternity cases, from adjoining camps and towns, admitted to the Louise Margaret Hospital. Thus 153 births taking place in that institution are transferred to other districts by the Registrar-General, while 148 again belong to the civil portion of the district. Twelve births, likewise, taking place in the Farnham Union Workhouse, have been transferred to Aldershot. The corrected figures are, therefore, as follows:—

Town	...	692	{	Males ...	335—illegitimate,	21
			{	Females	357—	16

South Camp	...	248	{	Males ...	123—illegitimate,	37
			{	Females	125—	1

940

3

ILLEGITIMACY.—37 births in the town were registered as illegitimate, a proportion of 5·3 per cent.

STILL BIRTHS.—18 were notified during 1912 in the civil area.

BIRTH RATES.—These are as follows.—

	Whole District.	Town.	South Camp.	England and Wales.
1912 ...	26·6	34·8	16·0	23·8

The birth rate for the whole country shows a steady diminution year by year. It is obvious from the above figures, however, that this is not the case in Aldershot, where the birth-rate is very considerably higher than it is for the whole country, and, indeed, shows an increase over the preceding year, in which—for the first time—exact statistics were available.

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES.—272 deaths were registered in the district, 177 taking place in the town and 95 in the camp. A certain number of deaths of Aldershot residents take place yearly in public institutions and places elsewhere, while, on the other hand, the above figures include a few deaths which belong to other districts.

The corrected number of deaths is, therefore, as follows :

1912.	Whole District.	Town.	South Camp.	England and Wales.
No. of Deaths ...	305	227	78	...
Death Rates ...	8·6	11·3	5·6	13·3

The death-rate for the town is one of the lowest of recent years, and compares favourably with the death-rate for the whole country.

INQUESTS.—22 inquests were held, 8 in the town and 14 in the South Camp.

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.—8 deaths were uncertified.

REVIEW OF THE GENERAL MORTALITY IN THE TOWN.—The year 1912, with its mild meteorological conditions, was one specially favourable to the public health. An epidemic of measles, originating in North Camp and then extending through the South Camp, invaded the town during April. The East End Infants' School was closed for one month and

the Church of England School for ten days. Eleven deaths took place from this disease. There were few cases of epidemic diarrhœa during the summer.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis claimed the largest number of deaths from any specific disease. The prevention and sanitary control of this disease are discussed in another column.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—55 infantile deaths were recorded, giving an infantile mortality rate of 84 per thousand registered births in the district. Eighteen (or about one-third of the whole number) were due to premature birth and congenital malformation, conditions which as yet must be considered as non-preventable, although a certain number, particularly in this district, must be due to inherited disease. Three children under one year died from Whooping Cough, of which disease there were a few sporadic cases in the town. Seven deaths resulted from Enteritis and Diarrhœa. A great deal of useful work in prevention of infant mortality, and in hygienic education, is being accomplished by the Health Visitor under the Notification of Births Act. The number of births registered in the town in the year was 532, while 479 live births and 18 still births were notified under the provisions of the Act. It thus appears that a certain number have escaped notification, but the omission of so many is due mostly to the migratory nature of the population and to the fact that new comers are not aware of the adoption of the Act locally. Matters would be much simplified if either the Act were made compulsory in all districts, or, better still, if the registration of births could be enforced within six days, instead of as at present within six weeks. The first visit to a case of child-birth is paid, on an average, on the fifth or sixth day, the adequacy of arrangements noted, and useful advice given as to the management of infants. The proportion of total births visited in 1912 was 58 per cent. Revisits are made from time to time in every case, on an average on four occasions. Thus, in the year under mention, 1,340 visits were made by the Health Visitor in 324 cases.

Infant consultations are held at the Municipal Buildings every Wednesday afternoon, the average attendance being from 15 to 20 mothers. The official and voluntary agencies

at work concerning child-care supervision are (1) The District Council, (2) The Central Aid Society, (3) The Military Nursing Organization, (4) National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The following table shows, in tabular form, the work done in connection with health visiting :—

Visits to Homes,	1,340.
Babies brought to Central Offices for consultation, weighing, etc.,	132.
Number of Weighings,	356.
Refusals to permit weighing,	2.
Cases reported to Inspector, Nat. Soc. P.C.C.,	4.
Insanitary conditions reported to Inspector of Nuisances,	28.

Of the deaths, 28 in number, of these babies who had been visited by the Health Visitor, the associated conditions or causes noted in connection with them were as follows :— 9 were bottle-fed, 16 breast-fed, 1 combined breast and hand-feeding, 3 only lived a few hours, 6 were premature children, and 1 died eventually in the Workhouse Infirmary.

Supervision of Midwives.

(Midwives' Act, 1902.)

Seventeen midwives gave notice during 1912 of their intention to practise in the district; of these, two resided in the camp, and one in the rural district of Farnham. A return is asked from all midwives at the end of each year, in order to obtain statistics as to the work done by them. The following particulars refer to the work done in 1912 by 12 midwives, the remaining five (four of whom have left the district) had no practice and have sent no returns.

Number of Midwives returns	...	...	12
Number of all cases attended	...	...	434
Number of all cases attended in the capacity of midwife	...	...	402
Number of all cases attended in the capacity of attendant nurse	...	...	32
Number of cases in which medical help was advised	...	...	65
Number of still births notified by midwives			14

Number of cases of twins	...	...	1
Number of infants breast-fed at close of attendance	...	...	403
Number of infants hand-fed at close of attendance	...	...	11

VITAL STATISTICS:—Births registered in 1912 in the Town, 532. Percentage of births in Town attended solely by Midwives, 76 per cent. Infantile Mortality Rate, 84.

PLACES OF RESIDENCE.—Dampness due to structural defects was noted in one case, in other respects the sanitary conditions were excellent in all the houses.

CASE BOOKS, BAGS AND APPLIANCES.—Certain inaccuracies in recording temperatures were met with in the case of two midwives. Also one case where an ordinary lubricant without antiseptic properties was being used. The bags and appliances are, as a rule, kept in good and clean condition. Disinfection was carried out in certain mild cases of Puerperal Septicæmia which were notified to me.

PUERPERAL SEPTICÆMIA.—Three cases of mild nature occurred during the year; two of the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital for proper medical and nursing treatment; all three made good recoveries.

MIDWIVES' COMMITTEE.—Quarterly meetings were held on February 20th, June 20th, September 23rd, and November 22nd, 1912. At the last meeting, a woman appeared before the Committee to answer two charges: (1) That not being a certified midwife she attended a case of child-birth; (2) That she omitted to notify the birth. She appeared to have acted in entire ignorance of the law on the subject, and the case was dismissed with a reprimand.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—There were 11 deaths due to Measles, 4 to Whooping Cough, 7 to Diarrhœa, and 1 to Diphtheria. The Zymotic death-rate being 1·1 per 1,000 population.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—The following shows the monthly incidence throughout the year.

1912.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Total
Jan. ...	7	3	—	—	—	6	16
Feb. ...	3	—	—	—	—	8	11
March	1	1	2	2	—	4	10
April ...	1	1	—	1	—	4	7
May ...	1	—	1	—	—	1	3
June ...	1	1	—	—	—	3	5
July ...	2	3	1	—	—	3	9
Aug. ...	2	—	—	—	—	4	6
Sept. ...	2	—	1	—	—	1	4
Oct. ...	4	3	—	—	—	3	10
Nov. ...	2	1	—	—	1	3	7
Dec. ...	6	—	—	—	—	4	10
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	32	13	5	3	1	44	98

SCARLET FEVER.—32 cases, all of a very mild character, occurred in the Town, and 23 were notified to me as having occurred in South Camp. Measures of isolation and disinfection were carried out in all cases. The mild nature of the disease seems to account for the occurrence from time to time of isolated cases, which can only be explained on the hypothesis that the disease has affected other persons in the intervals so slightly as to arouse no suspicion of its actual presence. One is able, occasionally, to confirm this by observation of certain school cases. For example in this case: a child was sent to me by the school teacher immediately on its arrival at school with sore-throat and a rash. The case was at once removed to the Isolation Hospital, and examination of the whole of the children in the school class revealed the presence of four other children who were in a peeling condition as to their arms and legs. Subsequent enquiry at the homes of the children failed to elicit any history of illness beyond what was believed by the parents to be that of "biliousness."

DIPHTHERIA.—Thirteen* cases were notified during the year, with 1 death. The greater number of the cases occurred in the Ash Road district, as has been found the case year after year. At the same time the number of cases

is smaller than it has been for any year for which I have any record. It remains to add that the sanitary conditions of the 12 houses where the cases occurred were thoroughly investigated. The Inspector of Nuisances reports that in 5 of the houses, the drains were grossly defective, and in 1 the house walls showed excessive dampness. In the old days, Aldershot had a very unenviable reputation for this dangerous disease, and even at the present time it is quite common to find prevailing among strangers or visitors a strong impression that there is always an exceptional amount of diphtheria locally. That this impression is totally erroneous may be at once seen from a comparison of the figures as to the attack-rate per population, in other towns in the county and in the country at large.

Diphtheria attack-rate per 1,000 of population in 1912 :—

England and Wales	...	...	1'24
London	...	...	1'57
Administrative County of Southampton			1'16
Portsmouth	...	...	4'48
Southampton	...	...	1'60
Bournemouth	...	...	0'48
Winchester	...	...	0'47
Gosport	...	...	1'29
Aldershot	...	...	0'65

The above figures are abstracted from the Local Government Board Report on Infectious Diseases.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—This disease, the most prevalent of all diseases in this country, claimed 29 victims during the year. It was included in the compulsorily notifiable diseases from January 1st, 1912 and during the year 43 notifications were made the subject of investigation by myself. A strong family history of Phthisis is recorded in only four instances, but in a certain number of cases, the elucidation of any particulars as to past life, etc., was quite impossible. Of the 43 cases, 28 were males and 15 females; 21 died during the course of the year. Of the remaining 22, 4 are in excellent health and are following their occupations; 6 are much improved in health but are still under medical care at sanatoria; 7 appear to be suffering from a chronic form of the disease and are permanent invalids; two have left the neighbourhood and 3

are in a rapidly failing condition. Of the whole number of the cases, 25 have been, for some period of the year, or are still undergoing sanatorium treatment at Institutions; 2 were admitted to the local Isolation Hospital for treatment. Of the 28 males, 11 are recorded as being ex-soldiers.

The insanitary conditions meet with in certain of the cases were those which one commonly finds to be contributory causes of the disease; namely, rooms dusty, dirty and rarely cleansed, windows never opened, cold and dampness caused by structural defects of walls and roofs, and carelessness with regard to the disposal of the sputum. Another potent contributing cause of consumption of the lungs is excessive indulgence in alcohol, and I find that in 12 out of the 43 cases, the patients had been in the habit of drinking to excess for a number of years before contracting the disease. Alcohol taken in excess produces gradually and insidiously a degeneration of the body tissues, in which, thus robbed of their vitality, the deadly germs of Tuberculosis, when once implanted, meet with but little resistance, and consequently multiply and flourish.

A register is kept in which a record is made of all cases. Visits are made from time to time, disinfectant and spittoons are supplied and literature bearing on the prevention and spread of the disease is distributed. The provisions of the National Insurance Act, have been of assistance in obtaining sanatorium treatment for those whose means are insufficient for the remedial measures, which are so vital in many cases.

With regard to the prevention of Tuberculosis, there can be little doubt that the ideal policy in administration should be the same as that in dealing with any other dangerous infective disease, namely, the compulsory segregation (at the expense of the community) of all persons affected, directly the disease is recognised. Public opinion, however, at the present time is not yet ripe for such apparently drastic measures. It is, however, a matter of grave concern for the state, since numbers of useful lives are at present constantly being sacrificed through the ignorance or carelessness of persons affected with the disease.

Isolation Hospital.—North Town, Aldershot.

Sixty-six patients were admitted to this hospital during the year, suffering from the following diseases :—

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric.	Puerperal Fever	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Poliomegetitis	Observation Cases.
Aldershot cases ...	23	12	—	2	2	—	1
Cases from other districts	19	5	1	—	—	1	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	42	17	1	2	2	1	1

Nearly all cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria occurring in the town are removed to hospital; only those were isolated at home in cases where it could conveniently and safely be arranged. One death took place from Diphtheria.

The establishment comprises an administrative block, 2 isolation blocks (12 beds in each), 2 spare isolation wards (2 beds), discharge block, laundry and disinfecting section. There is no mortuary.

The staff consists of a nurse-matron, two assistant nurses, caretaker, cook and laundry-maid.

The disinfectant in use is Goddard, Massey and Warner's modified Washington Lyon. It has been in use 97 times during the year; 2,532 articles have been disinfected in it. 128 houses have been visited, inspected and disinfected. The fumigating solution used is a 6 per cent. solution of 40 per cent. formaline. Fifty-one houses and 380 articles have been disinfected for persons with Tuberculosis. The East End and Church of England Schools were disinfected in May for Measles; in addition, several houses were disinfected for Measles, Puerperal Fever and Erysipelas. Verminous bedding from two houses in Herrett Street was destroyed in the town destructor.

The Danyz Virus was employed in Crimea and Sebastopol Roads, places much infested with rats; the results were excellent.

The Balance Sheet of the Hospital for the year ending March 31st, 1912, is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Maintenance (including drugs and ambulance expenses)	615	15	0
Salaries	176	19	2
Principal and Interest (repayment of loan) ...	236	0	0
	1,028	14	2
Receipts for maintenance of cases from adjoining districts	230	16	0
	£797	18	2

Analytical and Bacteriological Laboratory.

The sewage effluents have been analysed from time to time. Also samples of town water, well-water and various articles of food.

BACTERIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS:—Examinations have been made in suspected conditions of the following:—

Diphtheria	73
Enteric Fever	4
Tuberculosis	36
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	1
Ringworm	10
Others	19

Water Supply.

The average daily net consumption per head in Aldershot was 24·63 gallons, the rainfall being 32·57 inches at the Water Works, Boxall's Lane. The water itself is of exceptional purity, but is very hard. It is obtained from 10 Artesian wells sunk to a considerable depth through the London clay into the Chalk. Thirty new services were laid during the year.

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse, Sewage Disposal.

The removal and disposal of House refuse is carried out three times weekly by the Surveyor's Department. Occupiers

have to place their refuse receptacle on the pavement in readiness for the scavenger; the provision of suitable covered receptacles is not insisted on by the Council, and therefore it follows that the majority of them are inadequate and insanitary. Section 36 of the Public Health Act should be enforced universally in the district in order to remedy this. Trade refuse is removed by the Surveyor on payment.

The Sewage flows by gravitation to the Sewage Works, where it is dealt with in a series of contact beds which are arranged as follows:—

Primary	...	...	...	17
Secondary	...	...	...	14
Tertiary	...	...	...	6
Storms	...	...	...	7
				44

During the year there have been put down one Tertiary bed 700 sq. yds. area with a depth of 2 feet, also 2 Storm water beds, area, (1) 784 sq. yds. x 1ft. 6ins., (2) 1,496 sq. yds. x 2 ins.

A greater area is required for the tertiary beds, these being insufficient in rainy weather. The old primary beds have been cleaned and aerated from time to time, during the year; also the newer secondary and tertiary beds. The Blackwater river has been cleaned from the West End to to the Farnborough boundary. In consequence of the occasional flooding of the sewer in High Street, certain alterations have been made with regard to the sewers by the Surveyor, and these have been largely successful in preventing further inundations.

UNSEWERED PARTS OF THE DISTRICT

Three cottages on crest of Redan Hill (cesspools).
 Five cottages in Cemetery Road (pail closets).
 Six houses in Cranmore Lane (cesspools).
 Two in Ayling Lane (cesspools).
 Six Cottages, Aldershot Stubbs.

With regard to Cranmore Lane, an extension of the Sewer has been agreed to by the Council, and the Surveyor has instructions to carry it out,

New Buildings.

The total number of buildings erected (or in course of erection) was 59, made up as mentioned below. Of the 39 houses and shops mentioned, 12 are as yet incomplete.

The new Secondary Schools in Highfield Avenue were completed and opened during the year.

Houses (3 have shops attached thereto)	39
Public Houses...	1
Hippodromes ...	1
Picture Palace Houses ...	1
Stores and Bakeries ...	1
Workshop Additions ...	1
Alterations to premises ...	2
Club room additions ...	1
Garage Additions ...	1
Petrol Stores ...	1
Coach-houses ...	1
Shop Fronts ...	1
Grain Silos ...	1
Additions to Premises ...	7
Total	59

The Surveyor supervises all new buildings.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE INSPECTOR OF
NUISANCES DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1912.

		Number of		Abatement Notices.		Nuisances Abated after Notices by		Nuisance remaining unabated.
		Inspections and Observations made.	Defects found.	Informal by Inspector.	Formal by Authority.	Inspector.	Authority.	
Dwelling-houses and Schools	{ Foul Conditions ... }	730	302	—	5	283	5	14
	{ Structural Defects ... }		202	—	20	105	27	70
	{ Over-crowding ... }		9	—	—	9	—	—
	{ Unfis for Habitation... }		22	22	11	4	—	18
	Lodging-houses ...	110	10	10	—	10	—	—
	Dairies and Milkshops ... }	20	12	12	—	12	—	—
	Cowsheds ... }							
	Bakehouses ...	15	6	6	—	6	—	—
	Slaughter-houses ...	291	5	5	—	5	—	—
	Canal Boats ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Drainage	Ashpits and Privies ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	35	31	25	6	25	6	—
	Water Closets ...	See dwelling houses.	92	—	2	89	—	3
	{ Defective Traps ... }		9	—	—	9	—	—
	{ No Disconnection ... }		15	—	—	14	—	1
	{ Other Faults ... }		254	—	23	229	23	2
	Water Supply ...		—	—	—	—	—	—
	Pigsties ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Animals improperly kept	see D.H.	16	16	—	16	—	—
	Offensive Trades ...	9	3	3	—	—	—	3
	Smoke Nuisances ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Other Nuisances ...	see D.H.	10	10	—	10	—	—
Totals ...		1,210	998	—	67	826	61	111

		PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.	
Complaints recieved ...	161	Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed ...	97
Seizures of Unwholesome Food ...	2	Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease ...	128
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	44	Schools, ditto, ditto ...	3
Samples of Food found Adulterated	1	Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease...	—
Samples of Water taken for Analysis ...	1	Convictions, ditto, ditto ...	—
Samples of Water condemned as Unfit for Use ...	1	Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things ...	—
		Convictions, ditto, ditto ...	—

Housing of the Working Classes.

(Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.)

The following is a summary of the work done in the Health Department in connection with the sanitation of dwelling houses ;—

Number of new dwelling houses erected—

(a) By private enterprise	...	...	39
(b) By Council	...	...	0

Number of houses inspected by Inspector of Nuisances or Medical Officer of Health—

(a) As a result of complaint	...	161
(b) As a result of infectious disease	...	63
(c) As part of inspection under the Housing Inspection of District Regulations, 1910	...	28

Number of notices served for structural defects of houses—

(a) Informal	...	...	147
(b) Statutory	...	...	58

Number of notices served for—

(a) Overcrowding	...	9
(b) Uncleanliness	...	82

Number of notices complied with ... 285

Number of houses dealt with under Sect. 15,
Act, 1909 ... 3

Number of houses represented under Sect.
17, Act, 1909 ... 14

(a) Number of houses put in repair (ex- cluding those dealt with under Sect. 15)	...	19
(b) Number of houses closed	...	3
(c) Number of houses demolished	..	6

Number of obstructive buildings dealt with ... 0

Number of back-to-back houses ... 4

Number of cellar dwellings ... 0

Number of registered houses let in lodgings 208

The dwelling houses enumerated below have been dealt with under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909—

(1) *Under Section 17.*

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, Aldershot Buildings, Boxall's Lane.

Ten houses, Aldershot Stubbs (five now closed).

Nos. 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, and 45, Lysons Road.

No. 21 Vine Street.

(2) *Under Section 15.*

Nos. 3, 6, 7 Alfred Street.

There is insufficient housing accommodation for the working classes in Aldershot. The cost of the land appears to be the prohibitive factor in the erection of suitable cottages with low rentals. The powers of the Act might well be utilised in obtaining land at a reasonable price and building cottages to be let at rentals within reach of small wage-earners.

Common Lodging Houses.

(P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 76-89.)

There were only six common lodging houses at the close of the year, the houses in the occupation of Mr. Webb having been closed for these purposes. The following are the names and addresses of the occupiers :—

Address.	Accommodation.			Name of Keeper.
Short Street	...	54	...	D. Rooney
Little Wellington Street	23	...	...	Mrs. Greenwood
Union Terrace	...	11	...	Mrs. McMinn
1 Sebastopol Road	...	26	...	H. Seavers
7 & 9 Sebastopol Road	45	(both Sexes)	...	A. Reale
209 High Street	...	25	...	Mrs. Dean

During the year Mr. J. R. Webb, who was responsible for two common lodging houses which were very badly conducted, was again convicted for offences against the Byelaws; a penalty of £3 was enforced with 17s. costs, and his license was suspended for three years by order of the Justices. Generally speaking the common lodging houses

at present on the register are kept clean and wholesome. The houses in Little Wellington Street have been found by me on two occasions to show a certain amount of neglect in efficient cleansing of the besteads, etc. The houses 7 and 9 Sebastopol Road had not been cleansed and lime-washed according to the Act; this was at once carried out, on attention being called to the omission.

Bakehouses (F. and W. Act, 1901.)

There are 23 bakehouses (3 of which come under the heading of factories) in the town. These have all been inspected from time to time, and the regulations are usually well observed. Two preliminary notices were issued in respect of dirty floors, and the conditions promptly remedied.

Below is a tabulated list of bakehouses and occupiers:—

LIST OF BAKEHOUSES.

Address.	Occupier:
115 Victoria Road	... E. C. Alexander.
21 Alexandra Road	... W. Leet.
13 Grosvenor Road	... T. Darracott.
Short Street ...	... T. Darracott (factory bakehouse).
83 High Street	... T. Guppy.
221 High Street	... W. Stiff (factory bake- house)
266 High Street	... G. Goode.
374 High Street	... Tolley Brothers.
94 Ash Road	... J. Stiff.
North Lane ...	... C. Gilmoure.
Ash Road House	... A. Smith & Sons.
30 Station Road	... Chas. Fry.
Wellington Street	... B. Croxford & Son (fac- tory bakehouse)
Halimote Road	... Aldershot Co-operative Society.
48 Grosvenor Road	... T. Wright.
28 Grosvenor Road	... E. Clarke.
112 Queen's Road	... W. A. Lambert.
148 Victoria Road	... E. King.
91 Grosvenor Road	... W. Lambert.
72 High Street	... J. Rogers.

Slaughter Houses (P.H.A., Sect. 169), Meat and Food Inspection (P.H.A., Sect., 116).

The private slaughter houses, two in number, are being constantly inspected by the Inspector of Nuisances, who holds the certificate for meat inspection. Attention to the Bye-laws is rigorously insisted on. 26 seizures or surrenders of unwholesome food were made during the year. Forty-eight visits were made to the military abattoir for the purpose of receiving the surrender and superintending the destruction of carcasses, or portions thereof, which had been rejected by the military officers. Prosecutions took place in two cases of meat deposited or exposed for sale in an unfit state for food; one butcher was convicted and fined 5 guineas with £2 19s. costs, the other case was dismissed on payment of the court fees.

Offensive Trades (P.H.A., Sect. 112.)

One complaint was received by the Sanitary Inspector with regard to a gut-scraping business at Aldershot Stubbs. The complaint referred to the unsatisfactory disposal of refuse; this, however, was at once rectified. The only other business of an offensive nature is that of tripe-boiling, concerning which there have been no complaints, since the business is carried on with all reasonable care.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts

(S.F.D. Act, 1875; S.F.D. Amendment Act, 1879; S.F.D. Act, 1899; Margarine Act, 1887.)

Food and Drugs.

Samples taken in Aldershot during the year 1912:—

		No. Taken.	No. Adulterated.
New Milk ...	...	29	1
Tea ...	...	1	—
Coffee ...	...	1	—
Demerara Sugar ...	...	2	—
Arrowroot ...	...	3	—
Cream of Tartar ...	...	3	—
Citric Acid ...	...	1	—
Skim Milk ...	...	2	—
Black Currant Jam ...	...	1	—
Lard ...	...	1	—
		44	1

The adulterated sample of new milk was deficient in milk-fat to the extent of 30 per cent. The case was dismissed on production of warranty.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

The following is a list of farms and cowsheds :—

Address.		Occupier
(1) Ayling Lane ...	...	J. R. Attfield.
(2) North Lane ...	...	J. Field.
(3) Newport Road	...	E. Christmas.

There are approximately 53 cows in use at the farms.

There are 11 dairies in the town and 61 registered milkshops. Twenty-four inspections have been made, 20 by the Inspector and 4 by myself.

The greater part of the milk supplied in Aldershot comes from farms situated in outside districts. The regulations made by the Council under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order are, generally speaking, well observed by the occupiers of dairies and cowsheds. The circulars dealing with cleanliness in the dairy issued by the Board of Agriculture were issued to occupiers in the district, and a number of leaflets entitled "Clean Milk," containing advice to retail milk sellers, were also distributed. Three samples of milk taken on arrival from three different sources in outside districts were examined bacteriologically, and in one of these cases the sample contained an excessive number of contaminating organisms pointing to uncleanness in collection.

Meteorological Observations, 1912.

35·1 inches of rainfall were registered at the Sewage Works, where a fairly complete set of instruments is kept for the purposes of meteorological observation, and the monthly records are issued in the usual Health Reports. Rain fell on 197 days during the year. With the exception of April and May—which were unusually dry and warm months—the rainfall was excessive, month by month throughout the year. Probably, to a great extent, as a consequence of the continued wet weather the year was conspicuous for the slight amount of epidemic disease, and for the correspondingly favourable condition of the Public Health.

Notes to Tables I., Ia., and Ib.

NOTES.—These Tables are arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrected rates probably would not be available. The rates are calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population. In a district in which large Public Institutions for the sick or infirm seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Columns 5 and 13 may be calculated on a nett population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

* In Column 6 are included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district.

In Column 12 is entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 8 and by addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in Column 8 and by addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

‡ “Transferable Deaths” are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a district other than that in which they resided. The deaths of persons without fixed or usual residence, *e.g.*, casuals, must not be included in Columns 8 or 9, except in certain instances under 3 (b) below. The Medical Officer of Health will state in Column 8 the number of transferable deaths of “non-residents” which are to be deducted, and will state in Column 9 the number of deaths of “residents” registered outside the district which are to be added in calculating the nett death-rate of his district.

The following special cases arise as to Transferable Deaths:—

(1) Persons dying in Institutions for the sick or infirm, such as hospitals, lunatic asylums, workhouses, and nursing homes (but not almshouses) must be regarded as residents of the district in which they had a fixed or usual residence at the time of admission. If the person dying in an Institution had no fixed residence at the time of admission, the death is not transferable. If the patient has been directly transferred from one such institution to another, the death is transferable to the district of residence at the time of admission to the first Institution.

(2) The deaths of infants born and dying within a year of birth in an Institution to which the mother was admitted for her confinement should be referred to the district of fixed or usual residence of the parent.

(3) Deaths from Violence are to be referred (a) to the district of residence, under the general rule; (b) if this district is unknown, or the deceased had no fixed abode, to the district where the accident occurred, if known; (c) failing this, to the district where death occurred, if known; and (d) failing this, to the district where the body was found.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 4,178.

Total population at all ages:—

Town	...	19,464
South Camp		15,711
		35,175

Number of inhabited houses:—

Town	...	3,650
South Camp		18
		3668

At Census of 1911.

Average number of persons per house 5.3

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Aldershot Urban District (including S. Camp), during 1912 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected number.	Nett.		Number.*	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District	of Residents not registered in the District.	Number.*	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	Under 1 Year of Age	At all Ages.
			Number.	Rate.								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1907	32670	1075			306	9.3	19	42	91		329	10.6
1908	33200	1072			321	9.6	19	37	104		339	10.2
1909	33963	1058			305	8.9	23	69	90		351	10.3
1910	34944	1043			253	7.2	16	55	71		292	8.3
1911	35249	1081	933	26.4	340	9.6	26	77	109	116	391	11.0
1912	35247	1081	940	26.6	272	6.8	22	55	79	84	305	8.6

TABLE IA.—Vital Statistics of Aldershot Town during 1912 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths. +		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.*	Rate.	Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.*	Rate per 1,000 net Births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1907	18388	537			208	11'3	2	39	60		245	13'3
1908	18670	542			210	11'2	3	35	60		242	12'9
1909	18954	508			187	9'8	1	63	55		249	13'1
1910	19244	522			168	8'7	3	54	46		219	11'3
1911	19538	512	677	34'1	217	11'1	3	69	81	119	283	14'9
1912	19836	532	692	34'8	177	8'9	4	54	55	80	227	11'3

TABLE 1B.—Vital Statistics of South Camp during 1912 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS, +		NET DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.*	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.			
			Number.	Rate.					Number.*	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.*	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11	12	13
1907	14282	528			98	6.8			31		84	5.8
1908	14530	475			111	7.6			43		97	6.6
1909	15009	536			118	7.8			35		102	6.8
1910	15700	513			85	5.4			25		73	4.6
1911	15711	569	256	16.2	123	7.8	23		28	109	108	6.8
1912	15411	549	248	16.0	95	6.0	18		24	97	78	5.6

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1912.
(Aldershot Urban District.)

Notifiable Disease.		Cases notified in Whole District.							
		At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
			Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65
Small-Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	30	...	3	14	8	5	...	...	
Erysipelas	...	7	...	1	1	1	2	2	
Scarlet Fever	...	55	...	16	24	13	2	...	
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal Fever	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	
Cerebro-spinal Me- ningitis	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pulmonary Tubercu- losis	...	46	...	...	1	7	27	11	
Totals	...	142	...	20	41	29	39	13	

Civil and Military Isolation Hospitals.

TABLE IIA.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1912
(Aldershot Town only.)

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notrified.								Total cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards	
Small-Pox	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup...	13	...	2	9	1	1	...	...	12
Erysipelas	5	...	1	1	...	1	2	..	...
Scarlet fever...	32	...	11	19	1	1	...	...	29
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	44	...	...	1	7	25	11	...	...
Totals	98	...	14	31	9	31	13	...	43

Civil Isolation Hospital, North Town. Provided by Aldershot Urban District Council. Total available beds, 26.

TABLE II_B.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1912
(South Camp only.)

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.							
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.						
		Un- der 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup...	17	...	1	5	7	4	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Scarlet fever... ..	23	...	5	5	12	1	...	...
Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Menin- gitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculo- sis	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Totals	44	...	6	10	20	8	...	...

Military Isolation Hospital.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1912.
Aldershot Urban District (Town and South Camp.)

Causes of Death		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
		All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
All causes	f Certified ... Uncertified...	297 8	77 2	12 ...	12 ...	16 ...	30 1	38 2	58 2	54 1	...
Enteric fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Small pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	17	3	5	4	4	1	...	...	...	3
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping cough	...	5	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and croup	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Influenza	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	34	...	...	1	2	4	14	13	...	4
Tuberculosis Meningitis	...	4	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Other tuberculous diseases	...	5	2	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	2	2
Rheumatic fever	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Meningitis	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Organic heart disease	...	23	...	...	...	1	...	4	8	10	6
Bronchitis	...	19	3	...	...	...	...	2	4	10	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	30	11	3	2	...	7	1	5	1	13
Other diseases of respiratory organs	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...
Diarrhoea & Enteritis	...	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	4	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1
Alcoholism	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's disease	...	10	...	...	...	...	1	1	6	2	2
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	38	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	15	1	...	1	2	6	4	1	...	6
Suicide	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1
Other defined diseases	...	37	3	...	2	1	4	6	10	11	13
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	27	6	1	...	1	1	1	1	16	1
		305	79	12	12	16	31	40	60	55	85
Sub-entries included in above figs.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...

TABLE IIIA.

Cause of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1912.
Aldershot Town.

Causes of Death.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
		All Ages.	Under year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
All causes { Certified ...	Uncertified ...	220	53	8	10	12	5	26	52	54	...
		7	2	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...
Enteric fever		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles		1	1	3	4	3	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping cough		4	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and croup		1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Influenza		1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)		29	...	...	1	2	3	11	12	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis		4	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Other tuberculous diseases		5	2	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease		8	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	2	1
Rheumatic fever		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis		1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart diseases		22	...	...	...	1	...	3	8	10	2
Bronchitis		18	3	...	2	...	...	1	4	10	...
Pneumonia (all forms)		15	7	1	...	...	...	...	4	1	...
Other diseases of Respiratory organs		4	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1
Diarrhoea & Enteritis		7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis		2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Cirrhosis of liver		1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Alcoholism		2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's disease		9	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	2	...
Puerperal fever		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition		1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature Birth		24	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide		7	1	...	1	1	1	2	1	...	2
Suicides		1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other defined diseases		25	2	...	1	...	...	3	8	11	1
Diseases ill-defined or unknown		25	5	1	...	1	...	1	1	16	...
All causes		227	55	8	10	12	5	28	54	55	10
Sub entries included in above figures	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...

Nett Deaths at the subjoined age of "Residents," whether occurring within or without the District.

Causes of Death.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined age of "Residents," whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents," in Institutions in the District.
		All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
All causes	certified ... uncertified ...	77 1	24 ...	4 ...	2 ...	4 ...	25 1	12 ...	6 ...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	6	2	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	4
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Rheumatic Fever	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Meningitis	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Organic Heart Disease	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4
Bronchitis	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	15	4	2	...	...	7	1	1	...	12
Other diseases of respiratory organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea & Enteritis	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	14	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	8	...	...	...	1	5	2	...	...	...
Suicide	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1
Other defined diseases	...	12	1	...	1	1	4	3	2	...	12
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
		78	24	4	2	4	26	12	6		75

TABLE IV.

Aldershot Urban District.

Infantile Mortality, 1912..

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Cause of Death.				Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Mth.	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—9 Months.	9—12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified ...	...	...	20	4	4	4	34	20	9	6	10	79
	Uncertified...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	3
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	...	1	...	4
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	1	4	11
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	3	3	...	1	8
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	3
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Injury at birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	5	2	...	...	...	7
Premature Birth	...	...	...	16	2	2	2	22	1	...	...	...	23
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	5	1	1	...	9
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
				22	4	4	4	34	20	9	6	10	79

Nett Births in the year, 940 : legitimate, 900 ; illegitimate, 40.

Nett Deaths in the year, 79 : legitimate infants, 77 ; illegitimate infants, 2.

TABLE IV. A

Aldershot Town Only.

Infant Mortality, 1912.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 year of age.

Cause of Death.					Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Mth.	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
All Causes	Certified	...	...	...	9	3	3	3	20	18	7	4	6	55
	Uncertified	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	3
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	7
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	3	2	...	...	6
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	...	...	7	2	1	2	12	1	...	...	...	13
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	5	1	...	...	7
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
					11	3	3	3	20	18	7	4	6	55

Nett Births in the year, 692 : legitimate, 655 ; illegitimate, 37.

Nett Deaths in the year, 55 : legitimate infants, 53 ; illegitimate infants, 2.

TABLE IV. B
South Camp Only.
Infant Mortality, 1912.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Cause of Death.				Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Mth	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified	...	...	11	1	1	1	14	2	2	2	4	24
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
Scarlet Fever				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions				1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Laryngitis				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms)				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	4	...
Diarrhœa				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...
Gastritis				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis				...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Rickets				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations				1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
Premature Birth				9	...	1	...	10	...	...	...	10	...
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus				...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	2	...
Other Causes				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				11	1	1	1	14	2	2	2	4	24

Nett Births in the year, 248 : legitimate, 245 ; illegitimate, 3.

Nett Deaths in the year 24 : legitimate infants, 24 ; illegitimate infants, 0.

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories ... (Including Factory Laundries) ...	16		
Workshops ... (Including Workshop Laundries) ...	18	12	
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)			
Total ...	34	12	

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions	
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector		
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts ;—*</i>					
Want of Cleanliness	...	...	3	3	
Want of Ventilation	...	...	1	1	
Overcrowding	...	...			
Want of Drainage of floors	...	...	1	1	
Other Nuisances	...	...	14	14	
Sanitary Accommodation	{	insufficient	2	2	
		unsuitable or defective	1	1	
		not sufficient	...		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>					
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)					
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake-houses (ss. 97 to 100)	...	...	6	6	
Other offences	...	...			
(Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report).					
Total	...		28	28	

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.										OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.				OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTION'S 109, 110.						
	Lists received from Employers.										Prosecutions.		Instances.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made. (S. 110).	(1)				
	Twice in the year.		Once in the year.		Notices served on employers as to keeping or sending lists.						Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.									
	Lists.	Con-tractors.	Out-work-ers.	Lists.	Con-tractors.	Out-work-ers.	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)								(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
(1)	4	5	15	3	7	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wearing apparel :—																					
(1) making, &c.																					
(2) cleaning and washing.																					
Household linen																					
Lace, lace curtains and nets																					
Curtains & furniture hang-ings																					
Furniture and upholstery																					
Electro-plate																					
File making																					
Brass and Brass Articles																					
Four pulling																					
Cables and chains																					
Anchor and grapnels																					
Cart gear																					
Locks, latches and keys																					
Umbrellas, &c.																					
Artificial flowers																					
Nets, other than wire nets																					
Tents																					
Sacks																					
Racquet and tennis balls																					
Paper bags and boxes																					
Brush making																					
Pea picking																					
Feather sorting																					
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.																					
Stuffed toys																					
Basket making																					
Chocolates and Sweetmeats																					
TOTAL	4	5	15	3	7	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

4—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

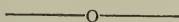
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.		Number.
(1)		(2)
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses may be enumerated here.	Workshop Bakehouses	18
	Other Workshops	104
	Total number of workshops on Register ...	122

5—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
(1)	(2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	Nil.
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5).	Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector...
Other	1 1
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	Nil.
In use at the end of the year	Nil.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December, 1912.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Aldershot Urban
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my third annual report, shewing the work accomplished during 1912.

Considerable trouble has been experienced (although litigation avoided) in connection with the drain and sewer question.

The present unsatisfactory state of the law defining drains and sewers is responsible for frustrating, to a great extent, our efforts to obtain better drainage conditions.

An amended law is urgently needed, and all pressure should be brought to bear upon Parliament to pass a short Bill relieving local authorities of the responsibility of repairing drains on private property.

During the latter period of the year, your committee instructed me to write to various other authorities, with a view of learning the procedure adopted by them in dealing with defects on private house drains, which are legally defined as "sewers."

The information gained was rather startling, and certainly emphasized the need for an amendment of the law relating to the definition of drains and sewers.

Nuisances.

It has not been necessary to resort to legal proceedings to enforce the abatement of nuisances, although in a few cases legal proceedings were threatened before the necessary works were executed.

By far the majority of nuisances have been remedied by explanatory letters and interviews with owners and agents.

One hundred and thirty-seven such letters have been written, and 92 informal notices and 67 statutory notices have been served. The latter may be divided into the following matters, viz. :—

Defective drainage	...	...	23
Overflowing or leaking cesspools	...	...	2
Defective stable floor	...	...	1
Defective or insufficient W.C's.	...	...	2
Defective yard paving	...	...	5
Offensive accumulations	...	...	6
Damp house walls	...	...	6
Leaking house roofs	...	...	5
Defective sinks	...	...	1
Insanitary walls and ceilings	...	...	3
Defective scullery floors	...	...	2
Closing Orders, under Housing and Town Planning Act	...	...	11
Total	...	...	67

The number of complaints of nuisances during the year reached 161. Each complaint was immediately investigated and the necessary remedial measures taken.

Number and Nature of Inspections.

Visits to houses	...	...	730
„ „ slaughter-houses	...	...	291
„ „ premises where food is in preparation or exposed for sale...	...	...	379
„ „ lodging-houses and “houses let in lodgings”	...	...	110
„ „ bakehouses	...	...	15
„ „ workshops	...	...	18
„ „ dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops	...	...	20
„ „ offensive trades	...	...	9
„ „ caravans	...	...	9
„ re offensive accumulations	...	...	35
„ „ drainage work in progress	...	...	361
Number of new drains tested by means of the hydraulic test	...	...	138

House drainage is smoke-tested in every case where infectious disease has occurred, and also upon complaint.

In this connection the drains at 70 houses have been subjected to the smoke test, resulting in defects being revealed in 50 instances.

The water test is applied on completion of all drainage reconstruction.

The following table gives a summary of work done :—

Houses entirely re-drained	...	...	50
Other defects in drains remedied	...	...	45
New W.C. pans fixed	...	...	36
W.C. pans cleansed	...	...	19
New pedestal W.C.'s fixed	...	...	3
New flushing cisterns provided to existing W.C.'s	...	...	9
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	32
W.C. provided with additional light and ventilation	...	...	1
New W.C.'s built	...	...	3
Dilapidated W.C.'s repaired	...	...	8
New gullies fixed	...	...	48
New ventilating shafts erected	...	...	11
Ventilating shafts repaired	...	...	15
Chokages in ventilating shafts removed	...	...	5
New inspection chambers provided	...	...	15
New disconnecting chambers provided	...	...	11
New fresh air inlets provided	...	...	17
Chokages removed from existing fresh air inlets...	...	...	3
Scullery sink washpipes repaired	...	...	11
Gully channels repaired	...	...	46
New scullery sinks fixed	...	...	7
Manhole lids and frames renewed	...	...	2
Drain chokages removed	...	...	31
Scullery floors repaired	...	...	11
Backyards paved or repaved	...	...	37
Rain water gutters and down pipes repaired	...	...	29
Leaky house roofs repaired	...	...	26
Damp house walls remedied	...	...	62
Number of houses—internal surfaces cleansed throughout	...	...	3
Number of rooms—internal surfaces cleansed	...	...	115
Nuisances from overcrowded houses	...	...	9

Nuisances from the keeping of animals	...	16
Accumulations of offensive matter	...	31
Stable floors reformed	...	3
Covers provided to manure pits	...	3
Manure pits repaired	...	3
Bakehouses limewashed under notice...	...	4
Bedroom windows made to open	...	10
Defective house walls plastered and ceilings repaired	...	16
Defective house floors repaired	...	11
Dirty bedding cleansed	...	5
Nuisances from refuse receptacles	...	5
Overflowing or leaky cesspools	...	5
New urinals built	...	3
Urinals provided with flushing apparatus	...	2
Miscellaneous matters	...	10

It is gratifying to note the increase in the number of backyards paved. The paving of backyards is of extreme importance in encouraging cleanliness and hygienic conditions. At present, powers in this direction are lacking, owing to the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907, not being in force in your district. This Act confers greatly increased powers with regard to sanitary measures generally, and it is to be regretted that no progress has been made as to its adoption. At the time of writing, however, an agitation has been commenced with the object of embracing its powers. I trust it will not prove to be abortive.

With regard to the re-papering and distempering of houses, the occupier is made responsible in cases where it is possible to prove that the condition of the house is due to the occupier's neglectful and dirty habits.

Fowl keeping in backyards is a constant source of trouble. Many of the backyards in the district, although not a nuisance in the legal sense of the word, are not kept in a very desirable condition, in consequence of the presence of more or less dilapidated shanties, which serve as shelters for poor emaciated fowls.

You are no doubt aware of your power to make byelaws with respect to the keeping of animals, but I understand that the Local Government Board are not disposed to allow byelaws except those prescribing the *distance only*

from a dwelling, which even have not been adopted for your district. It is to be regretted that powers are not available to regulate the structure of fowlhouses in addition to a prescribed distance.

Comparatively very few houses are provided with that necessary article—a properly covered sanitary dustbin. Many of the house refuse receptacles consist of tin baths, wood boxes or other absorbent material, and have no means of excluding rain water. As moisture and heat are the two main factors which cause putrifaction, it is extremely important that house refuse receptacles should be covered, and also constructed of non-absorbent material. It is urged that you exert your powers under section 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and compel the provision of proper and efficient refuse receptacles.

Factories and Workshops.

Seven workshops have been added to the register, viz., 1 tailor, 2 bakehouses, 1 florist, 2 dressmakers, and 1 boot repairer.

His Majesty's Inspectors look after the sanitary condition of factories, and only so far as the abatement of nuisances is concerned have we statutory power to inspect. The local sanitary authority is responsible, however, for the sanitary condition of workshops and workplaces. Twenty-six nuisances were detected and abated.

Communications relating to the occupation of workshops were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in eleven instances.

Sanitary improvements have been carried out at the gut scraping premises at Aldershot Stubbs.

Slaughter-houses and Food Inspection.

There has been no addition to the number of slaughter-houses or any change in occupation.

Under the existing conditions it is not possible to inspect more than a minimum amount of meat being prepared for food in the three private slaughter-houses in the district, owing to the irregular and unknown times of slaughter,

No animal slaughtered can be satisfactorily and efficiently inspected only at the dressing process, and no food supply can be considered above reproach without such inspection. In private slaughter-houses it is practically an impossibility to inspect *all* animals, hence one cannot be altogether confident of the soundness of meat from such slaughter-houses. True, the butchers' shops are inspected, but it is much more difficult to detect diseased conditions in pieces of meat than in a whole carcase. Again, without the organs one cannot, in the majority of cases, arrive at a true diagnosis.

A Public Abattoir, with stated periods of slaughter, facilities of inspection, hygienic conditions, etc., would enable the possibility of providing the public with a pure food supply.

I cannot omit a word of praise for the butchers, who, on the whole, provide a class of meat which is of the highest.

Keen attention has been paid to the sanitary conditions of the slaughter-houses. I have on several occasions found cause to complain of the neglected condition of the cattle lairs and filthy condition of the garbage receptacles at two of them.

The limewashing of the walls has been carried out in accordance with the byelaws.

The following table gives particulars of surrenders of food, viz. :—

DATE.	SUBJECT AND DISEASE.	PLACE.	SURRENDERED OR SEIZED.	RESULT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN.
Jan. 2	Ox liver. Distomatosis.	slaughter-house	surrendered	Dismissed on payment of costs, 14s.
" 5	Pig carcass. Tuberculosis.	shop	seized	
" 11	Three pig carcasses. Tuberculosis.	slaughter-house	surrendered	
" 18	Buttock of frozen beef. Putrefaction.	do.	do.	
" 23	Three sheep lungs. S. Rufescens.	do.	do.	
" 30	Pig's head. Tuberculosis.	do.	do.	
Feb. 1	Sheep liver. Echinococcus cysts.	do.	do.	
" 2	Two forequarters of cow carcass. Tuberculosis.	do.	do.	
" 20	Pig's head. Tuberculosis.	shop	do.	
" 28	Cow's liver. Distomatosis.	slaughter-house	do.	
Mar. 28	Three sheep lungs. S. Rufescens.	do.	do.	
Apr. 5	Two forequarters of cow carcass. Tuberculosis	do.	do.	
" 8	Pig carcass. Tuberculosis	do.	do.	
" 10	Cow carcass. Do.	do.	do.	
" 15	Pig's head. Putrefaction	shop	do.	
" 18	Sheep's lungs. S. Rufescens	slaughter-house	do.	

DATE.	SUBJECT AND DISEASE.	PLACE.	SURRENDERED OR SEIZED.	RESULT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN.
May 2	Ox head and tongue. Actinomycosis	slaughter-house	do.	
" 2	Lamb's lungs. Pneumonia	do.	do.	
June 24	Cow's mesentery. Tuberculosis	shop	do.	
" 26	Cow's lungs. Distomatosis	slaughter-house	do.	
" 28	70 lbs. Chitterlings, 6 pig stomachs. Putrefaction	shop	do.	
July 26	Cow's lungs, liver and udder. Tuberculosis, distomatosis, and garget respectively	slaughter-house	do.	
Nov. 20	Ox head and tongue, liver, lungs, and mesentery. Tuberculosis	do.	do.	
" 20	Sheep carcase. Suffocation	shop	do.	
Dec. 11	One pig carcase. Tuberculosis	shop	seized	Written warning by order of the Council

In most of the above cases of surrendered meat my inspection had been invited by the respective owners.

The first mentioned seizure arose out of the usual inspection of the butchers' shops. Hanging outside and exposed for sale at a certain large shop was a side of pork. Upon examination, I found that the submaxillary gland was enlarged and tuberculous, and although the other side was hanging near by, no sign of disease could be traced in that portion. I seized the diseased side and obtained the usual magistrate's order for its destruction, and subsequently at my request the other side—being rather emaciated and dropsical—was surrendered and destroyed.

Legal proceedings followed with the result stated. The defence, which the magistrates favourably considered, was to the effect that there had not been sufficient time for the butcher to make an examination, as it was alleged that the pork in question had only been brought into the shop about ten minutes previous to my inspection. This defence was rather ambiguous in my opinion, because the butcher had had sufficient time to cut the carcase into halves and hang the two sides outside. I maintain there had been culpable and serious neglect, insomuch as the carcase had not been examined immediately upon entering the shop. I may add, that the pig had been slaughtered outside your district, and that no previous intimation had been received of unsound conditions at the shop in question.

The second seizure refers to the case of a pig carcase with tuberculous lesions in the neck. Although the whole carcase was seized the magistrate only condemned the head and allowed the remainder to be returned to the butchers on the grounds of it being a well-nourished carcase. In view of the fact that no organs were available, I cannot express my agreement with this procedure, which may be interpreted as a dangerous precedent.

However, upon the whole of the facts being reported to your Committee and the matter fully considered, it was recommended that no legal proceedings be taken, and that a letter of caution would meet the case. I might mention that this pig had been slaughtered and dressed on unlicensed premises, and had been in the shop a full day-and-a-half before inspection.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Only a comparatively small quantity of the milk sold in the district is derived from cows housed within your district.

There are only three dairy farms on the register, with a total accommodation for 53 cows.

One cowshed is of fairly recent construction, and the others, although not quite as modern, have been brought up to the standard required by the Bye-laws.

The number of dairies—that is 11—remains the same as last year. Although one dairy has been discontinued, another has been established.

With respect to the latter, my inspection was requested before the dairyman took possession of the building, and certain works were carried out, including the repairing of the floors, improved ventilation and drainage, and the provision of a cover for the manure pit.

All the dairies have been visited from time to time, and I am pleased to say they are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Milkshops are increasing year by year. Any small shopkeeper is permitted to sell milk by the simple application to be registered, and, unfortunately, local authorities do not possess the power of refusing such applications. After registration, a set of Bye-laws is enforced, which, for vagueness, could hardly be surpassed. Additional powers conferring upon local authorities the right to refuse applications for registration, and the power to license, are urgently needed.

Common Lodging Houses.

Changes have taken place in connection with this class of house. The new lodging house at West End has been struck off the register. Trinity House, West End, has been discontinued as a common lodging house, and is now used for accommodating regular weekly male lodgers. Number 15 Union Terrace has been voluntarily closed, and the common lodging houses, 9 Sebastopol Road and Little Wellington Street have been remeasured, resulting in slightly reducing the original accommodation.

The list, as now revised, is as follows :—

Short Street,	...	accommodation for	54	males
Little Wellington St.	"	"	23	"
14 Union Terrace	"	"	11	"
1 Sebastopol Road	"	"	26	"
209 High Street	"	"	25	"
7 & 9 Sebastopol Rd.	"	"	45	both sexes.

The closing of the new lodging house at West End, previously referred to, was a sequel to legal proceedings being successfully taken against the keeper on the 22nd April, for contravening the Bye-laws, and as this registered a third conviction, the Bench suspended him from being the keeper of a common lodging house for three years and imposed a penalty of £3 and £2 19s. costs. The Bench allowed two weeks grace before the operation of the suspension, and the house was to be closed on the 5th May. The keeper, however, acted in open defiance, for although the house was closed on the date mentioned, it was re-opened several day later. Legal proceedings were again instituted and a conviction was obtained under section 77, Public Health Act, 1875. A fine of 3 guineas and 17s. costs was imposed. Since then the building has not been used as a common lodging house, but has been converted into a house let in lodgings.

Hackney Carriages.

Periodical inspections have been made of the cabs whilst stationed on the various ranks, and strict compliance with the Bye-laws has been required.

The taxicabs are kept commendably clean, and have, in addition to the meter, a statement of the fares legally chargeable exhibited inside the cab.

A considerable decrease is noted in the number of special licenses granted on race days. Perhaps it may be interesting to give the figures since 1908 :—

1908	number	issued	135
1909	"	"	102
1910	"	"	61
1911	"	"	34
1912	"	"	16

Two complaints of excessive fares having been charged were received during the year, and the details respecting each case were reported to your Committee.

The first case is relative to the driver of a hansom cab overcharging to the amount of 2s. 6d., and although the Committee, upon hearing the particulars connected therewith, considered it a rather serious offence, they were of the opinion that the Council were not in a position to institute legal proceedings in consequence of the fact that the cab had been hired from the Station Rank, which is private property. The driver, however, was required to appear before the Committee, when he was reprimanded and cautioned, and it was suggested that he return the overcharged amount to the complainant, which he accordingly did.

The second case refers to an overcharged fare by a taxicab driver to the extent of 1s. 3d. The taxicab was hired from the East Cavalry Barracks' Rank and therefore was, unlike the previous case, immediately affected by the Bye-laws. Legal proceedings resulted, and the Bench dismissed the summons on payment of the costs, and ordered the return of the amount overcharged.

The following table gives particulars of the number of licenses issued, etc. The previous year's numbers are also indicated for comparison :—

RANKS AND THEIR ACCOMMODATION,—

East Cavalry Barracks'	...	...	26
The Grove	...	...	6
High Street	...	...	1
Station (private rank)	...	...	17

HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSES GRANTED.—

			1912	1911
Horse-drawn vehicles	...	...	24	27
Taxicabs	...	...	13	14
Motor Buses	...	...	7	4
Motor Char-a-bancs	...	...	2	2

DRIVERS AND CONDUCTORS LICENSED.—

			1912	1911
Horsed vehicles	...	...	22	26
Taxicabs	...	...	16	17
Motor Buses	...	...	25	15

	£	s.	d.
Fees collected up to December 31st, 1912	13	10	0
Special license fees at 2s. 6d.	2	0	0
	£15	10	0

In conclusion, I beg to acknowledge my thanks for your kindness and considerateness during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

March, 1913.

F. WHITEHEAD.

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

Aldershot Education Committee

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1912.

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

ALDERSHOT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1912.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my report for the year 1912, with regard to the medical inspection of children in your Elementary Schools.

The following table shows the number of teachers, the accommodation, and the average attendances at the various schools in December, 1912 :—

	No. of Teachers.		Accommodation.		Average Attendance.
West End School—					
Boys ...	8	...	370	...	309
Girls ...	9	...	295	...	290
Infants	13	...	666	...	508
	30		1331		1107
East End School—					
Boys ...	8	...	317	...	301
Girls	7	...	342	...	237
Infants	6	...	216	...	217
	21		875		755
Newport Road—					
Boys and Girls	12	...	480	...	442
Infants	6	...	300	...	214
Total	18		780		656

	No. of Teachers.		Accommodation.		Average Attendance.
Church of England—					
Boys and Girls	4	...	112	...	115
Infants	3	...	78	...	80
Total	7		190		195
Roman Catholics—					
Boys and Girls	6	...	182	...	185
Infants	3	...	112	...	104
Total	9		294		289
Grand total	85		3470		3002

HYGIENIC CONDITIONS.—Generally speaking these are excellent, and the notes in former reports may be referred to with regard to the arrangements in force as regards provision for ventilation, heating, lighting and equipment. With regard to general sanitary conditions, reports were forwarded by me to the Clerk regarding the defective condition of the Roman Catholic School playground, which was accordingly rectified under the Surveyor's instructions, while the provision of twenty new and suitable desks in certain class rooms in that school was carried out.

A report was also made concerning a nuisance appearing to arise from defects in the drainage system at the East End Schools. The matter was investigated by the Surveyor, who writes as follows with regard to the drains at the several schools :—

“As regards the general efficiency of the drains they appear to be well laid at ample self-cleansing gradients ; they are well ventilated. They are not, however, proof against the water test, as I have repeatedly stated ; such a test is unreasonably severe to apply to drains constructed at so remote a date as were these. A complaint was received from you as to smells emanating from the East End Schools ; these were, however, attributed to a want of cleanliness on the part of the caretaker, rather than to any inherent defect in the drains. Certain work has, however, been done at the East End Schools, including an access manhole and drain ; at the Roman Catholic Schools the whole system has been re-arranged and re-constructed.”

GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDICAL INSPECTION.—School Medical Officer, Dr. E. W. Routley, M.O.H.; School Nurse, Mrs. E. Shearwood.

The examination of scholars from the West End Boys and Girls School, the Church of England School, and the Roman Catholic School is conducted in the Municipal Buildings; the inspection at other schools is conducted on the school premises. Notices are sent to parents advising them as to date, hour, and place of inspection, and inviting them to be present at the times mentioned. The School Nurse with the aid of the head teacher does the preliminary weighing and measuring, and the simple eye tests for each child, Snellen's types being used for the purpose. Notes are made by the teacher with regard to any special point connected with the child to which he may attach importance, particularly with regard to mental capacity; the subsequent examination of each child occupying on an average five minutes.

NON-ROUTINE INSPECTION.—702 children, in addition to the number examined at the statutory inspections, were examined as "non-routine" or special cases. An inspection clinic is held every morning from 10 till 11 for non-routine cases at the Municipal Buildings, and special eye cases are examined on Saturday mornings from 10 to 12. I have visited the schools on 51 occasions, while the School Nurse in the exercise of her duties of "following up" cases already seen, has paid 352 visits to the schools. An explanatory table giving details of ailments or conditions in these non-routine cases is given later in this Report.

PREVIOUS HISTORY.—The following table indicates the previous history with regard to illness, which was recorded on all notices returned by the parents:—

	Total Number of Children.	Boys.	Girls.	Percentage.
Measles	809	408	401	83'5
Whooping Cough ...	509	238	271	57'7
Chicken Pox	288	124	164	30'0
Mumps	173	87	86	18'0
Scarlet Fever	63	25	38	6'0
Diphtheria	37	20	17	3'7
Rheumatism	6	4	2	...
Chorea	2	...	2	...
Enteric Fever	2	2	...	...
Tuberculosis (Hip)	1	...	1	...

In consequence of the very widespread outbreak of Measles in the year 1911, and its continued prevalence in one portion of the district in the early part of 1912, the percentage of children who had suffered from this disease was much higher than has been recorded in recent years. Measles and Whooping Cough are diseases which, unfortunately, can be very little controlled under existing legislation, and, at the same time, are those which lay the foundation for a large number of the chronic ailments which are so frequently to be found among children in the schools.

CHILDREN REFERRED FOR FURTHER EXAMINATION:—147 children were found, on inspection, to be in such a condition as to make it necessary to exclude them until fit for re-admission. The reasons for such exclusion being as follows:—

Verminous Conditions, 135	Chorea	...	...	1
Ringworm ...	Whooping Cough	...	...	1
Scabies (Itch) ...	Condition of Eyes	...	...	1
Pyrexia ...	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	1

In connection with these children, and a number of others (not excluded, but recommended for proper medical treatment for other conditions), directions were given in 217 cases. It is to be noted, however, that although verminous conditions loom largely in the above list as causes for exclusion, yet the conditions were, in the greater number of cases, of a mild character, and show, year by year, a gratifying diminution both in number and extent. The question is discussed in more detail on a later page in this Report.

PRESENCE OF PARENTS AT MEDICAL INSPECTION.—550 out of the total number of 968 were accompanied by parents or guardians—a proportion of 56·8 per cent.; the proportion of children in the infants' classes accompanied by their parents was much larger, reaching 71 per cent.; the general average being much reduced by the fact that the older boys who are leaving school do not succeed in bringing their parents with them. A great number of mothers attend, however, with some sacrifice of work and time, and in all respects the general percentage of parents who come to the inspections must be considered a gratifying one.

SCHEDULE OF INSPECTION.—The schedule used is that ap-

proved for the purpose by the Board of Education, and is the same as described in former reports, and therefore is not again inserted in the Report.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN STATUTORILY INSPECTED ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE.—968 children were examined, consisting entirely of those entering and those leaving school; the number being considerably more than one-fourth of the average attendance, to which, in other districts, it closely approximates. In addition to this, as mentioned in former reports, there are still a small number of entrants and leavers, whom, from the short stay they make in the district, it is not always possible to examine. The reasons for the constant changes in school-places have been fully dealt with in former reports.

The following table gives the number presented for inspection from each school, arranged according to age and sex :—

BOYS.		Total.	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Church of England	...	32	3	10	11	1	1	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	0
Roman Catholic	...	37	4	3	11	6	5	0	1	1	0	0	6	0	0
West End	...	210	11	26	24	19	18	24	11	10	10	6	49	2	0
East End	...	125	9	17	13	7	7	10	7	11	3	7	29	4	1
Newport Road	...	99	4	15	20	6	20	5	3	5	3	5	13	0	0
Total	...	503	31	71	79	39	51	41	23	27	18	18	98	6	1

GIRLS.

Church of England	...	39	0	7	9	2	4	0	1	0	2	0	14	0	0
Roman Catholic	...	30	1	1	7	6	2	1	1	1	1	2	6	1	0
West End	...	195	10	17	34	16	10	19	19	14	6	6	44	0	0
East End	...	126	7	12	28	9	4	6	6	2	1	7	35	9	0
Newport Road	...	75	8	9	9	4	12	7	2	3	3	2	15	1	0
Total	...	465	26	46	87	37	32	33	29	20	13	17	114	11	0
Grand Total	...	968	57	117	166	76	83	74	52	47	31	35	212	17	1

CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR.—The following conditions were noted in regard to this important item :—

Clothing—

Insufficient...	...	...	5
Dirty	...	...	8
Very Dirty...	...	...	3
Verminous...	...	...	5

21

Footgear—

Insufficient...	...	...	6
Grossly insufficient	...	...	3
None	...	...	1

10

CLEANLINESS OF HEAD AND BODY.—Year by year, since medical inspection was first undertaken, it is gratifying to note the steady improvement which takes place in the general conditions of cleanliness. The very gross cases which were formerly seen in great numbers are now rare; the cases, although still numerous, being as a rule comparatively slight in degree. There are a certain number of chronic offenders in this respect who are continually infecting the school, and whom we have constantly to re-inspect. As regards verminous conditions of the hair, 118 cases, 12·1 per cent. (girls 102, 21·9 per cent.), were noted; 80 of these were slight cases, 37 well marked cases, and 1 case affected to a very gross extent. With regard to cleanliness of bodies, 2 boys were extremely dirty, 6 children (5 boys, 1 girl) were pediculous, and 33 children were markedly fleabitten. The action taken in uncleanly cases by the Education Committee was further revised towards the end of the year, and is as follows. A notice is sent in the following terms to the parent or guardian, with directions for treatment :—

ALDERSHOT EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

PRIVATE NOTICE.

To the Parents or Guardians of

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

"Your attention is drawn to the state of this child's head. The condition makes it impossible for.....to be allowed to remain in the School.

By attention to the directions given on the other side, this condition should be easily remedied.

The Committee feel sure that you will assist them in maintaining the health and cleanliness of the scholars under their care by giving this your immediate attention.

.....191

Head Teacher.

[BACK OF FORM.]

ALDERSHOT EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

TREATMENT OF HEADS OF CHILDREN.

Even clean children are liable to become infected with vermin, and it is therefore necessary to carefully examine the hair every week or oftener. In every case where nits are present on the hair it is advisable to crop it short all over, as a great deal of time and trouble is saved thereby. The treatment to be applied is as follows:—

FIRST NIGHT.—*Wash the head thoroughly with soft soap and hot water, and dry it with a warm towel. Then rub in sufficient paraffin oil over the head, so as to have the whole of the hair and skin completely wet with oil. The oil must be left on until the next night.*

CAUTION.—*Do not use paraffin near a fire or naked light.*

SECOND NIGHT.—*After combing the hair with a fine tooth comb, the head must be thoroughly washed again with soft soap and hot water, then dried, and the paraffin applied as before.*

THIRD NIGHT.—*The head must be again combed washed, dried, and the oil applied as before.*

In most cases, if the above directions are carried out thoroughly, there will be no nits to be found after the third day. The worst head can certainly be cured within a week. The head should be thoroughly searched for nits, and if any are found the treatment must be carried out each night until the head is perfectly clear. The presence of crusts and scabs on the head makes the above treatment more urgently necessary. The scabs should be carefully removed when they are softened by the washing. Iron the collars of all the clothes with a hot iron. After the head is quite clear, it is advisable to follow out the above treatment once a week, to ensure perfect cleanliness.

E. W. ROUTLEY, M.D.,

Medical Officer.

While the instructions to the head teachers, and the directions as to subsequent action to be taken by the Attendance Officer in cases of non-compliance with the notice are explained in the following instruction note issued by the Education Committee :—

1. In case a child be found, on examination, to be verminous the following notice be sent to the parent by the Head Teacher with printed instructions on the back :—

“ Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attention is drawn to the state of this child's head. The condition makes it impossible for to be allowed to remain in the School.

By attention to the directions given on the other side, this condition should be easily remedied.

The Committee feel sure that you will assist them in maintaining the health and cleanliness of the scholars under their care by giving this your immediate attention.”

2. In case the excluded child does not return to School clean within three days from its exclusion the Clerk is to be notified, and he will at once give notice to the parent that unless the child returns to School clean within seven days from the receipt of the notice the parent will be prosecuted without further warning.
3. This prosecution is to follow as a matter of course, the Attendance Officer obtaining the signatures of two members to the necessary form, and taking out a summons without further reference to the Committee.
4. The Head Teachers in the several Schools are empowered to examine children, and shall exclude them if found verminous.
5. If a child has been excluded as verminous by any Head Teacher, that Head Teacher may re-examine the child when presented for re-admission, and if found clean admitted, but should the child still be verminous they will again exclude it. If the child

has been excluded by the Medical Officer of Health or Nurse, then the re-admission shall not take place except the child be certified clean by the M.O.H. or Nurse.

6. In case any parent shall refuse to send the child, excluded by the M.O.H. or Nurse, to either of them for re-admission, the fact shall be at once notified to the Clerk, who will cause a notice to be sent to the parent that the child will be admitted, but if found verminous the parent will be prosecuted without further notice.
7. Should the child excluded as verminous present a medical certificate of fitness, the child shall be admitted and the circumstances reported to the Clerk, who will communicate to the M.O.H.

During the year fifteen parents were prosecuted for non-attendance of their children due to verminous condition.

MAL-NUTRITION.—71 children were found to be in a state of defective nutrition, while, on the other hand, 34 were noted as being as far above the ordinary standard. The conditions may be better estimated by working out a percentage thus:—

	Percentage.
Exceptionally well-nourished ...	3·5
Normal	89·2
Mal-nourished	7·3

The conditions associated with defective nutrition are many and various; prominent among them is the influence of chronic morbid conditions, as, for example, in 46 cases these were in order of frequency:—

Seriously defective teeth, alone, or associated with other defects.

Enlarged tonsils and adenoids.

Defects of vision, ear disease.

Valvular heart disease.

Diseases of lungs.

While extreme poverty, neglect, or ignorance of parents, with consequent defective feeding, accounted for most of the remainder.

DEFECTIVE TEETH.—I have prepared the following table

showing the extent to which disease of teeth exists in the school children. "Somewhat defective" means less than four teeth carious, while "seriously defective" signifies that four or more teeth were in that condition :—

Age Period.		Percentage. Sound Teeth.		Percentage. Somewhat Defective.		Percentage. Seriously Defective.
3-4	...	75	...	17	...	8
4-5	...	57	...	27	...	15
5-6	...	38	...	35	...	26
6-7	...	26	...	40	...	33
7-8	...	23	...	49	...	28
8-9	...	29	...	36	...	35
9-10	...	29	...	42	...	29
10-11	...	24	...	57	...	19
11-12	...	26	...	64	...	10
12-13	...	8.5	...	77	...	14.5
13-15	...	44	...	37	...	19

The vast majority of parents of children in the local schools cannot properly afford the very necessary, but expensive, dental treatment that is required. In only a very small number of the cases is any treatment undertaken. The important subject of care of the teeth is almost entirely neglected, and this neglect is not only responsible for a large number of the ills during school life, but also results in defective physical conditions in adult life. Dental treatment should be undertaken at the cost of the State, and the Education Committee will be well advised if they do the same as other enlightened municipalities are doing, and provide proper dental treatment for the children under their care.

TONSILS—ADENOIDS.—135 children are noted as having chronic enlargements of the tonsils with or without adenoid growths. In 41 of these cases operation was advised, and in most of them, it was carried out at the local hospitals.

ENLARGED GLANDS.—This very common condition, the result in nearly all cases of chronic inflammatory conditions present in the mouth and pharynx, or the presence of "nits" in the hair, was noted in 455 children; in 66 to a marked extent.

EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.—The following cases were recorded :—

Strabismus	...	...	8
Corneal Ulcerations	...	...	3
Conjunctivitis	...	...	1
Ptosis	...	...	1
Chronic Keratitis	...	...	1
Blepharitis	...	...	3

VISION.—51 cases of marked defect of vision were noted; the greater number were examined by me by retinoscopy, and glasses prescribed. The Education Committee contribute towards the cost in necessitous cases; a contract price is made with Mr. Bartlett, Optician, for the supply of the various combinations of glasses.

EAR DISEASE.—DEAFNESS.—9 per cent. were suffering from a degree—more or less pronounced—of deafness; 73 children being scheduled as slightly deaf, 13 as markedly deaf, and 2 as very deaf. Treatment, where advisable, was carried out in certain of the necessitous cases by the School Nurse under my instructions; the results being tabulated later on in this report. It is surprising to find such a large number of cases of wax accumulation as the cause of moderate deafness, while in several cases, foreign bodies impacted in the meatus were unexpectedly found to be the cause. Thus 4 cases were noted when under treatment, lumps of cotton wool, which had been there for months or years, were found, and in one case, a piece of roast onion was removed, which had been applied for earache some years before. A special report was made to the Clerk concerning one case of extreme deafness due to old and neglected disease of the little bones of the ear. The main causes of deafness in scholars were noted as follows:—

Ear disease	...	...	40 cases
Wax	...	...	30 „
Adenoids	...	...	6 „

SPEECH.—20 cases, nearly all in the younger children, were recorded, of slight defect in speech.

MENTAL CONDITIONS.—34 children were recorded as being markedly dull or backward.

HEART DISEASE.—9 children were afflicted with organic disease of the heart. The different types of affection

included :—(1) mitral regurgitation, with or without stenosis, 5 ; (2) mitral stenosis, 2 ; (3) aortic regurgitation, 1 ; (4) congenital disease, 1. Four children were observed with pulse acceleration and functional heart murmurs ; all apparently due to heart-strain, the result of too severe exercise the few preceding days.

LUNGS.—One child of 13 was found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The family history was a very bad one, the mother having already died from the disease, while the father had been suffering for some time from it, and there seemed to be little room for doubt that the child had been infected from her home surroundings. An unsuccessful attempt was made through the charitable agencies to obtain her removal to a sanatorium. Later on she was admitted to the infirmary where the disease terminated fatally. Seven other “suspicious” cases were also inspected, and, although I have had them under observation from time to time, there does not at yet appear any firm grounds for including these among those actually suffering from this disease. Two of these cases, with a view to the amelioration of their physical conditions, were sent to the infirmary for proper care, food and observation. Two cases of osseous and one of glandular tuberculosis were also noted.

NERVOUS SYSTEM.—10 children were described by their parents or the teacher as extraordinarily “nervous” or timid. Two were found suffering from chorea ; one with habit spasm ; and one with epilepsy.

RICKETS.—31 children (3 per cent.) presented evidence of the result of rickets in early childhood.

DEFORMITIES.—One case each of scoliosis, kyphosis, hare lip, flat foot, congenital hip disease, and talipes.

OTHER DISEASES AND DEFECTS.—The following conditions were noted and appropriate advice given where advisable : hernia, 3 ; mastitis, 1 ; chronic urticaria, 3 ; psoriasis, 3 ; pigmentation of skin over half the body, 1 ; infantilism, 1 ; ichthyosis, 1 ; infantile paralysis, 2 ; enlarged thyroid 1 ; pyrexia, of uncertain origin, 3.

INFECTIOUS OR CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.—3 children had scabies, 4 ringworm, and 1 whooping cough.

NON ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.—An inspection clinic is held at the Municipal Buildings every morning from 10 to 11, and on Saturdays eye cases are examined. 702 “non-routine” or “special” cases were thus seen during the year, and instructions issued in respect of each. The following table gives the conditions which were found, or the reasons for which they were sent for examination:—

Errors of Refraction	...	...	...	58
Deafness, Sore Ears	...	...	...	50
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	30
Impetigo	...	...	...	18
Septic Condition of Skin	...	...	...	24
Seborrhœa	...	...	...	6
Gland Enlargement	...	...	...	8
Psoriasis	...	...	...	4
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	12
Alleged Indecent Assault	...	...	...	8
Inflammation of Eye	...	...	...	11
Pyrexia	...	...	...	13
Urticaria	...	...	...	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Gland Abscess	...	...	...	1
Lupus	...	...	...	1
Chorea	...	...	...	2
Eczema	...	...	...	1
Herpes Zoster	...	...	...	2
Corneal Ulcer	...	...	...	4
Polypus	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis	...	...	...	1
Talipes	...	...	...	1
Epilepsy	...	...	...	2
Needle in Arm	...	...	...	1
Mental Condition	...	...	...	2
Bronchocele	...	...	...	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	2
Insufficient Clothing or Footgear	...	...	...	3
Accident—Injury	...	...	...	4
Mal-Nutrition	...	...	...	2
Syncope	...	...	...	1
Infectious Disease Contacts	...	...	...	22
Other Conditions	...	...	...	45
Non-Routine Exclusions	...	...	...	35 ²

EXCLUSIONS OF SCHOLARS DURING 1912.—The teachers are supplied with forms upon which they notify to me the absence of children suffering from infectious disease. I received 149 such notifications during 1912, the causes being as follows:—

Measles	...	...	113
Chicken Pox	...	...	14
Whooping Cough	...	...	20
Rubella	...	...	2
			149

In addition to those exclusions already enumerated under the statutory inspections there were 352 "special" exclusions of children sent to me for the following reasons.—

Verminous conditions	...	...	204
Ringworm	...	...	98
Scabies	...	...	10
Impetigo	...	...	7
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1
Suspicious cases	...	...	14
Whooping Cough	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	8
Rubella	...	...	6
Otorrhæa	...	...	1
Mal-Nutrition (extreme)	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	1
			352

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN THE SCHOOLS.—Class room III (consisting of classes I and II) in the West End Infants' School was closed for a period of 12 days (May 8th to 20th) as a precautionary measure in consequence of four cases of measles occurring. The measure appeared to be a successful one as there were no further cases. All departments of the Church of England Schools were closed for 12 days (2nd to 13th) for the same reason, and with an equally successful result. The East End Infants' School was closed from May 2nd to June 3rd in consequence of a sudden outbreak of measles in 40 cases in the school.

CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.—The Committee considered my report for 1911 dealing with the advisability

of not permitting the attendance of children under 5 ; and in the middle of the year instructions to this effect were issued to the teachers, so that since September, 1912, onwards, no children under this age have been, or will be, allowed to attend the elementary schools.

SPECIAL REPORTS TO CLERK OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.—Special reports were made concerning (1) the condition of the Roman Catholic playground ; (2) two cases of extreme defects of hearing ; three children are being maintained at Brighton Institution for the deaf and dumb ; and one at the Cripples' Home and Industrial School, Hallwich.

HYGIENE—PHYSICAL EXERCISES.—Lessons are given at the schools in the higher standards, weekly or fortnightly, on the following subjects :—Temperance, Cleanliness, Foods, Nutrition, Teeth Cleaning, Domestic Hygiene, etc. Physical exercises are given by an instructor twice a week. No provision is made for the teaching of cooking, in which all girls in elementary schools in their last year of school life ought to have an opportunity of being instructed.

REVIEW OF ACTION, FOLLOWING UP, ETC.—The adjoined table gives, in a concise form, the various items of physical defect, and the work done in connection with “following up” these cases :—

Mrs. Shearwood has been most painstaking and successful in her endeavour to maintain a proper standard of personal cleanliness amongst the school children, and has made 352 visits to the schools, mainly in connection with this question. Her efforts have been very warmly supported by the head teachers, whose constant supervision in this matter is so necessary. Owing to the fact that the population, to a large extent, is a migratory one, there are special difficulties in dealing with the whole question of medical or other treatment. The preceding table, however, shows that the greater number of ailments have been attended to by the parents, and that treatment has been obtained, and the results shown must, I think, be regarded as exceedingly satisfactory.

With the exception of dental treatment, the recommendations made at the medical inspections, have been, in the main, eventually carried out. The condition of the teeth of school children is, however, a matter which presses for consideration. Dental disease is so prevalent, and is, directly or indirectly, so pernicious to the present and future physical condition of the child, that it becomes a matter of urgency to deal with its treatment. This can only be satisfactorily carried out by the Education Committee, in the appointment of a school dentist, and I trust that the subject will receive their early consideration.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. W. ROUTLEY.

